FMDRC

P790083-1048

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May 1, 1979

TO: L - Mr. Marks

FROM: L/T - Linda A. Baumann

SUBJECT: Lipshutz Inquiry on Jonestown

Bob Lipshutz has asked for an update on the question of transporting the Jonestown remains from Delaware to California. Attached is a brief summary which you could either send him or convey orally.

FYI - There are rumors circulating that Arizona will try to prevent the bodies from passing through. However, four trucks arrived in California yesterday and Arizona did not object to their passage.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [signature] DATE 2/27/81
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☒
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

Attachment:

As stated.

L/T:LBaumann:kg
5/1/79 ext 22716

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Status of the Jonestown Remains

Pursuant to a California Superior Court order the Jonestown remains are being transported from Dover Air Force Base to California. Of the 545 bodies remaining at Dover, 297 have already left Dover. These bodies are identified and therefore are being transported by truck to either Oakland Army Base or Camp MacArthur (near Los Angeles) depending on the desires of the next of kin who will have 30 days to claim the remains.

The remaining 248 bodies are unidentified. They are to be transported to Oakland and buried in the vicinity. The court-appointed receiver is making arrangements with cemeteries and hopes to bury these bodies in more than one location in order to avoid creating a cult gathering site. The unidentified bodies will begin leaving Dover either May 4 or May 7. One truckload (approximately 50 bodies) will leave every three days thereafter. (The California Court directed that the bodies not be transported all at once.) Under this timetable, all the bodies should have left Dover AFB by the end of the month.